

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 98-043N]

Meeting on Risk Analysis for Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in the United States

AGENCY: Food Safety and Inspection Service; Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) are announcing that they will hold a public meeting to assess Department of Agriculture (USDA) measures to prevent Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) from entering the United States and endangering the U.S. food supply. On April 24, 1998, USDA entered into a cooperative agreement with Harvard University's School of Public Health to conduct a risk analysis to assess the potential pathways for entry into U.S. cattle and the U.S. food supply, to evaluate existing regulations and policies, and to identify any additional measures that could be taken to protect human and animal health. This meeting will provide an opportunity for public input and a chance to comment on the scope of the BSE risk analysis project.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on September 28, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The September 28 meeting will be held at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203-1850; telephone (703) 907-5500. To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Jennifer Callahan by telephone at (202) 501-7251 or by FAX at (202) 501-7642. If a sign language interpreter or other special accommodation is needed, contact Ms. Callahan at the above

numbers by September 21, 1998. Persons wishing to present technical data at the public meeting are asked to bring 100 copies of their data for distribution to participants in the meeting and to submit one original and two copies of the data to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Room 102, Cotton Annex Building, 300 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20250-3700. All other written comments should be submitted to the FSIS Docket Clerk at the above address.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Ruth Etzel, Director, Epidemiology and Risk Assessment Division, Office of Public Health and Science, at (202) 501-7472 or by FAX at (202) 501-6982.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: BSE is a progressive neurological disorder of cattle that results from infection by an unknown transmissible agent. Although the nature of the transmissible agent is unknown, a theory which has gained increasing acceptance is that the agent is a modified form of a normal cell surface component known as the prion protein, a pathogenic form of the protein that is less soluble and more resistant to enzyme degradation than the normal form. Two other theories are the virus and virino theories.

From 1986 to 1998, an estimated 171,000 head of cattle were diagnosed with BSE in Great Britain. The epidemic may have resulted from the feeding of scrapie-containing sheep meat-and-bone meal to cattle, but most likely was amplified by feeding rendered bovine meat-and-bone meal back to cattle. Several other European countries have reported indigenous cases of BSE.

No cases of BSE have been diagnosed in the United States. The USDA BSE Working Group has taken aggressive measures to prevent BSE from entering the U.S. over the last 10 years. These measures include the 1989 ban of cattle and cattle products from countries where BSE has been reported and active inspection, testing, and education programs targeted toward preventing the entry of suspect animals and animal products into this country. USDA cooperates with other government agencies in carrying out this mission. The information developed through the risk analysis will be used to refine USDA's regulatory activities.

Done in Washington, DC, on September 11, 1998.

Thomas J. Billy,
Administrator.

[FR Doc. 98-24888 Filed 9-15-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-M

CENSUS MONITORING BOARD

Meeting

AGENCY: U.S. Census Monitoring Board.

ACTION: Notice of Cancellation of Public Hearing.

SUMMARY: This notice hereby cancels the Sept. 18 public hearing of the U.S. Census Monitoring Board. The original hearing notice was published on Sept. 10, 1998 in the **Federal Register** (FR Doc. 98-24258) Vol. 63, No. 175 (63 FR 48467). The hearing will be rescheduled in the near future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Carrie Hyun, Communications Director, Presidential Members, U.S. Census Monitoring Board, Phone 301/457-9903 or Michael Miguel, Press Secretary, Congressional Members, U.S. Census Monitoring Board, Phone 301/457-5080.

Mark R. Johnson,

Executive Director, Presidential Members.

[FR Doc. 98-24988 Filed 9-14-98; 4:47 pm]

BILLING CODE 1179-00-M

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Oklahoma Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Oklahoma Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on September 29, 1998, at the Clarion/Comfort Inn Conference Center, 4345 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 74105. The purpose of the meeting is to collect pertinent information from school district officials and the community on student discipline and students exempt from taking the Iowa Test of Basic Skills.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Melvin L. Jenkins, Director of the

Central Regional Office, 913-551-1400 (TDD 913-551-1414). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, September 9, 1998.

Carol-Lee Hurley

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit
[FR Doc. 98-24920 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-F

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Pennsylvania Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1:30 p.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on October 26, 1998, at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, Administrative Level Board Room, 12th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107. The purpose of the meeting is for the Committee to complete its project planning for a future consultation on barriers confronting women and minority business owners.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202-376-7533 (TDD 202-376-8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, September 9, 1998.

Carol-Lee Hurley

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit
[FR Doc. 98-24919 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-F

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Texas Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 3:00 p.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on October 1, 1998, at the Ramada Hotel-Market Center, 1055 Regal Row, Dallas, Texas, 75247. The purpose of the meeting is to conduct a hate crimes community workshop at the Texas NAACP conference.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Philip Montez, Director of the Western Regional Office, 213-894-3437 (TDD 213-894-3435). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, September 9, 1998.

Carol-Lee Hurley

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit
[FR Doc. 98-24921 Filed 9-16-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335-01-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[A-301-602]

Certain Fresh Cut Flowers From Colombia: Partial Rescission of Antidumping Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce is rescinding this administrative review with respect to ten groups of companies based upon a withdrawal of the request for review by the interested parties who requested reviews of these companies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 17, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rosa Jeong or Marian Wells, Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 3099, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230; telephone (202) 482-3853 or 482-6309, respectively.

Applicable Statute and Regulations

Unless otherwise indicated, all citations to the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended ("the Act"), are references to the provisions effective January 1, 1995, the effective date of the amendments made to the Act by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act ("URAA"). All citations to the Department of Commerce's regulations are references to the provisions codified at 19 CFR Part 351, 62 FR 27296 (May 19, 1997).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On April 21, 1998, the Department of Commerce ("the Department") published in the **Federal Register** a notice of initiation of the administrative review of the antidumping duty order on fresh cut flowers from Colombia, covering the period March 1, 1997 through February 28, 1998 (61 FR 66017) based upon a request by certain exporters/producers of the subject merchandise and the domestic interested party in this proceeding.

On June 29, 1998, we received timely requests for rescission of the review from the Floral Trade Council, the domestic interested party, for the following groups of companies: Agrodex Group ("Agrodex"), Caicedo (CAICO) Group ("Caicedo"), Claveles Colombianos Group ("Clavecol"), Cultivos Miramonte Group ("Miramonte"), Floraterra Group ("Floraterra"), Florex Group ("Florex"), Funza Group ("Funza"), Guacatay Group ("Guacatay"), HOSA Group ("HOSA"), Maxima Group ("Maxima"), Papagayo Group ("Papagayo"), and Queens Group ("Queens"). On June 30, 1998, we received timely requests for rescission of the review from Clavecol, Floraterra, Funza, Guacatay, Papagayo and Queens. On July 8, 1998, Agrodex also withdrew its review request.

Therefore, in accordance with section 355.213(d)(1) of the Department's regulations, we are rescinding this administrative review with respect to Agrodex, Clavecol, Miramonte, Floraterra, Florex, Funza, Guacatay, HOSA, Papagayo and Queens, because these companies, along with the domestic interested party, have filed timely requests for withdrawal and no other interested party requested that they be reviewed. The cash deposit rates for these companies will continue to be the rates established for them in the most recently completed final results. We are not rescinding this review with respect to Caicedo and Maxima because these companies have not withdrawn their requests for review.